

Message Text

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FOR CARTER FROM PA

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: SOPN, OVIP (VANCE)

SUBJECT: PRESS MATERIAL

1. HEREWITH FULL TEXT MOSHE BRILLIANT ARTICLE NEW YORK
TIMES MONDAY AUGUST 1 HEADED "VANCE PLAN SAID TO SURPRISE
ISRAEL".

2. THE GOVERNMENT OF PRIME MINISTER MENAHEM BEGIN WAS
SURPRISED THIS WEEKEND BY THE ANNOUNCEMENT BY SECRETARY OF
STATE CYRUS R. VANCE THAT HE WAS CARRYING SUBSTANTIVE
PEACE PROPOSALS ON HIS TOUR OF MIDDLE EASTERN CAPITALS, A
HIGHLY PLACED ISRAELI OFFICIAL SAID TODAY.

3. WHEN HE LEFT WASHINGTON EARLIER THIS MONTH, PRIME
MINISTER BEGIN REPORTEDLY HAD THE IMPRESSION THAT PRESI-
DENT CARTER HAD AGREED WITH HIM THAT THE UNITED STATES'
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ROLE AT THIS TIME SHOULD BE CONFINED TO BRINGING THE ARABS
AND THE ISRAELIS TO THE CONFERENCE TABLE AT GENEVA. ONCE
THERE, THE PARTIES WOULD PRESENT THEIR RESPECTIVE PEACE
TERMS, ACCORDING TO MR. BEGIN'S PROPOSAL.

4. ACCORDING TO THE ISRAELI OFFICIAL, WHO SPOKE IN RE-
SPONSE TO QUESTIONS, MR. VANCE'S STATEMENT AT A NEWS CON-

ERENCE IN WASHINGTON FRIDAY CAST A DIFFERENT LIGHT, BUT THE ISRAELIS DO NOT WANT TO MAKE AN ISSUE AT THIS TIME OF WHAT THEY REGARD AS A CONFLICT.

5. IN AN AIRPORT INTERVIEW UPON HIS RETURN HERE FROM THE UNITED STATES, MR. BEGIN STATED EXPLICITLY THAT THE UNITED STATES HAD ACCEPTED THE PRINCIPLE THAT THERE SHOULD BE "NO FORMULAS FOR SOLUTION FROM THE OUTSIDE".

6. MR. BEGIN HAS REITERATED IN INTERVIEWS AND HIS REPORT TO PARLIAMENT THAT ONE OF HIS MAJOR ACHIEVEMENTS IN WASHINGTON HAD BEEN TERMINATING A CONFRONTATION WITH THE CARTER ADMINISTRATION THAT HE SAID HAD BEEN CAUSED BY THE FORMER GOVERNMENT'S ILL-ADVISED ATTEMPT TO FORGE A UNITED STAND WITH WASHINGTON BEFORE THE GENEVA CONFERENCE.

7. MR. BEGIN SAID THAT HE HAD CLEARED THE ATMOSPHERE BY GIVING UP THE IDEA OF A UNITED POSITION WITH THE AMERICANS. HE SAID THERE WAS NO POINT BARGAINING WITH WASHINGTON WHEN A DEAL HAD TO BE MADE WITH THE ARABS.

8. BUT HIS POLICY SHIFT, IN THE VIEW OF SOME HERE, MAY HAVE RESULTED IN MR. VANCE'S PUTTING FORWARD PROPOSALS WITHOUT COORDINATION WITH THE ISRAELIS.

9. LEADERS OF THE PREVIOUS GOVERNMENT HAVE CHARGED THAT UNCLASSIFIED

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SUCH A RESULT WOULD FOLLOW THE BEGIN VISIT. TODAY, FORMER MINISTER YIGAL ALLON, INTERVIEWED AT LABOR PARTY HEADQUARTERS HERE, SAID THAT HE HAD TOLD MR. BEGIN IT WAS A SERIOUS MISTAKE TO CONFINE HIS WASHINGTON TALKS TO PROCEDURES FOR PEACE TALKS.

10. MR. ALLON SAID THAT THE PREVIOUS GOVERNMENT, HEADED BY YITZHAK RABIN, HAD A CLEAR COMMITMENT FROM MR. VANCE THAT THE UNITED STATES WOULD REFRAIN FROM ISSUING BLUEPRINTS OF ITS OWN BUT WOULD CONFINE ITSELF TO GOOD OFFICES AND BRINGING ABOUT AN UNDERSTANDING BETWEEN ISRAEL AND THE ARABS. HE SAID THAT THE PRESENT AND FORMER AMERICAN GOVERNMENTS WERE COMMITTED TO DISCUSS SUCH IDEAS WITH ISRAEL FIRST.

11. "I HOPE THIS COMMITMENT STILL HOLDS AND MR. BEGIN HAS NOT RELEASED THE AMERICANS FROM THIS COMMITMENT," MR. ALLON COMMENTED.

12. SHMUEL KATZ, AN ADVISER TO MR. BEGIN AND A MEMBER OF HIS MISSION TO WASHINGTON, SAID TONIGHT THAT MR. ALLON'S REACTION WAS "ABSURD".

13. "THE FACT IS," HE SAID, "CONSIDERABLE EFFERVESCENCE
EXISTED BEFORE MR. BEGIN CAME TO WASHINGTON AS A RESULT OF

THE ADMINISTRATION'S HAVING DONE EXACTLY WHAT MR. ALLON
SAID THEY HAD COMMITTED THEMSELVES NOT TO DO--PUTTING FOR-
WARD BLUEPRINTS." CHRISTOPHER

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